THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date:

Subject: 2021 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance (JAG) Grant

Staff Resource(s): Elise Lewis, Financial Business Manager, Asheville Police Department

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution to apply for and accept the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) 2021 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance (JAG) Grant and adopt a budget amendment in the City's Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $76,873.

Background:

- The City of Asheville receives an annual opportunity to apply for a Department of Justice (DOJ), Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant.
- The DOJ has preliminarily determined that the Asheville Police Department (APD) is eligible to receive a 2021 award of $76,873 which is allocated to the APD and the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office in the amounts of $60,035 and $16,838 respectively.
- The APD will use the funds to help pay for overtime for police officers.
- The APD is currently down 34% in sworn staffing and is having to use overtime to help cover critical operational assignments until we can get staffing levels back up.
- The APD has seen a large increase in violent crimes and plans to use this funding to help compensate for overtime used to investigate and solve these violent crimes.
- The Buncombe County Sheriff's Office will use the funds to purchase protective gear such as helmets, goggles and gas masks.

Council Goal(s):

- A Connected and Engaged Community

Committee(s):

- Public Safety Committee - November 17, 2021 - 2-1 vote to approve

Pro(s):

- Ensures the ability to better protect the safety of the residents of Asheville and Buncombe County.

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- There is no local match required.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution approving the application and acceptance of the grant and a budget ordinance amendment in the City's Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $76,873.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution
- Budget Amendment

RESOLUTION NO. 21-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR THE 2021 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (JAG) GRANT

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-17.1 to apply for and receive grants from the Federal Government and to enter into contracts for the administration of said grants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville receives an annual opportunity to apply for a United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant; and

WHEREAS, the DOJ has preliminarily determined that the Asheville Police Department (APD) is eligible to receive a grant of $76,873, with $60,035 allocated to the APD and $16,838 allocated to the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office (BCSO); and

WHEREAS, the APD will use the funds to pay for overtime for police officers, and the BCSO will use the funds to purchase protective gear such as helmets, goggles and gas masks;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The Mayor is hereby authorized to apply, and if awarded, accept and enter into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice for an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of $76,873, with the expectation that $60,035 will be allocated to the Asheville Police Department, and $16,838 will be distributed to the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office.

Read, approved and adopted this the 14th day of December, 2021.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

That Section 2 of the City of Asheville Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $76,873 to accept a Federal grant from the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), 2021 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance (JAG) Grant for overtime for police officers costing $60,035, and protective gear such as helmets, goggles and gas masks purchases (Sheriff) costing $16,838, as follows:

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Revenues:

Federal Grants	$76,873.00
Total Revenues	$76,873.00

Appropriations:

Contra Salaries and Wages	$60,035.00
Awarded Grants	$16,838.00
Total Appropriations	$76,873.00

That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the date of final passage.

Read, approved and adopted this the 14th day of December, 2021.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney